

Message Text

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PFOR CA EI

SUBJ: GOI FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES JOINT ACTION AGAINST FUND-
RAISING

1. CANADIAN AMBASSADOR CALLED ON ME TODAY TO DISCUSS A CONVERSA-
TION HE HAD TWO DAYS AGO WITH GOI FOREIGN MINISTER FITZGERALD.
THE DISCUSSION TOOK PLACE AT A SOCIAL OCCASION AND WAS OF
NECESSITY VERY BRIEF. COMMENTING ON AMERICAN AND CANADIAN
CONTRIBUTIONS TO ORGANIZATIONS WHICH SERVE AS CONDUITS FOR
FUNDS TO THE PROVISIONAL IRA, FITZGERALD TOLD THE CANADIAN AMB-
ASSADOR THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THE SUBJECT WITH ME AND HE
WAS CONSIDERING THE FEASIBILITY OF REQUESTING A BILATERAL
STATEMENT OF CONDEMNATION OF SUCH FUNDRAISING, TO BE PUT OUT
JOINTLY BY THE USG AND GOI. IN FACT HE WAS CONSIDERING THE
POSSIBILITY OF A TRILATERAL STATEMENT WHICH WOULD INCLUDE CANADA.

2. WHILE I HAVE DISCUSSED THE FUNDRAISING SITUATION WITH FITZ-
GERALD ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, AGREE WITH HIS VIEWS AND OFFERED
COOPERATION, HE, IN FACT, HAS NEVER BROACHED THE IDEA OF A
BILATERAL OR TRILATERAL STATEMENT CONDEMNING SUCH ACTIVITIES.

3. COMMENT: CANADIAN AMBASSADOR MADDICK HAS INFORMED OTTAWA OF
HIS CONVERSATION WITH FITZGERALD BUT MADE NO RECOMMENDATION ON THE
SUGGESTED STATEMENT. IN RESPONSE TO HIS REQUEST FOR MY VIEWS I
TOLD CANADIAN AMBASSADOR THAT I THOROUGHLY AGREED WITH FITZGERALD'S
ASSESSMENT OF THE GREAT HARM DONE BY THESE CONTRIBUTIONS (ON BOTH
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SIDES) TO THE CHRONIC VIOLENCE IN NORTHERN IRELAND. I ADDED THAT

I FELT THE PROVOS AND THEIR SYMPATHIZERS HAVE BEEN DISCREDITED RECENTLY BY NEWS COVERAGE AND EDITORIALS IN SEVERAL MAJOR U.S. NEWSPAPERS AND THAT ANY HIGH-LEVEL BILATERAL GOVERNMENT STATEMENTS AT THIS TIME MIGHT GIVE RENEWED STATUS TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS JUST AT THE TIME WHEN THEY WERE BEING EXPOSED FOR WHAT THEY ARE BY THE MEDIA. THERE IS OF COURSE AN ADDITIONAL PROBLEM: ALMOST ANYTHING WE MIGHT SAY JOINTLY WOULD BE DISTORTED BY THESE ORGANIZATIONS AND USED AS EVIDENCE THAT WE HAD ABANDONED OUR POLICY OF NON-INVOLVEMENT. IT SEEMS TO ME LIKELY THAT FOREIGN MINISTER FITZGERALD WILL RAISE THIS SUBJECT WITH ME AND I WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS AND GUIDANCE. CURLEY

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